

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 PM-07 DODE-00 INR-10 RSC-01 /041 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JYATES:LB

7/12/73 EXT. 28354

APPROVED BY AF/W - O. RUDOLPH AGGREY

CU/YSS:HELAM(SUBS)

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PM/ISO:COL. FLEMMINGS(PHONE)

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R 121633Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

UNCLAS STATE 136308

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN (JOHNSON, SAMUEL)

SUBJECT: INJURED LIBERIAN STUDENT

1. SAMUEL JOHNSON, TEEN-AGE SON OF BRIG. GEN. AND MRS. PANDORA JOHNSON (IDENTIFIED AS ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LAND AND MINES), BROKE HIS NECK IN SWIMMING ACCIDENT JUNE 17 AND HAS SINCE BEEN PARALYZED FROM NECK DOWN. ALTHOUGH CONSCIOUS AND LUCID, PARALYSIS IS TOTAL AND JOHNSON ONLY ABLE BREATHE THROUGH USE OF RESPIRATOR. JOHNSON TRANSFERRED FROM SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA JULY 10 TO CRAIG INSTITUTE IN DENVER. DOCTORS AT FITSIMMONS ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, WHICH HAS COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT WITH CRAIG, SUGGESTED JOHNSON BE TRANSFERRED WALTER REED. THIS ALTERNATIVE EXPLORED BUT NOT AVAILABLE.

2. AT TIME OF ACCIDENT, JOHNSON WAS PARTICIPANT IN TEN MONTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM SPONSORED BY YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING HEADQUARTERED ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN. MRS. JOHNSON IS WITH SAMUEL IN DENVER, BUT DEPARTMENT HAS NOT SPOKEN WITH HER. EMBASSY MAY WISH EXPRESS SYMPATHY TO GEN. JOHNSON THIS UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT AND TRY DETERMINE IF WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE. ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE136308
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JYATES:LB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730737/aaaabbdy.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by phillir0>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INJURED LIBERIAN STUDENT
TAGS: OGEN, (JOHNSON, SAMUEL)
To: MONROVIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005